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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CELLSPIN SOFT, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

GOPRO, INC.,

Defendant.

Case No. <u>4:17-cv-05939-YGR</u> (KAW)

ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANT'S RENEWED EX PARTE APPLICATION FOR A DEBTOR'S EXAMINATION

Re: Dkt. Nos. 106, 107

I. **BACKGROUND**

On November 21, 2018, in the related case, Cellspin Soft, Inc. v. Fossil Group, Inc. and Misfit Inc., Case No. 17-cv-05933-YGR, the undersigned granted Fossil and Misfit's ex parte application for a debtor's examination, and set the judgment-debtor examination of Plaintiff Cellspin Soft, Inc. for February 21, 2019. For the sake of judicial efficiency, Defendant GoPro, Inc. and Plaintiff stipulated to GoPro's participation in the February 21, 2019 examination. (Dkt. No. 97.) On February 21, 2019, the parties appeared, but Defendants did not hire a court reporter, so the examination did not go forward.

On March 8, 2019, GoPro filed a renewed ex parte application. (Dkt. Nos. 101 & 102.) On March 15, 2019, Plaintiff filed an opposition, in which it raised essentially the same unsuccessful arguments that it had raised previously. (Pl.'s Opp'n, Dkt. No. 103.) On March 22, 2019, Defendant filed its reply. (Def.'s Reply, Dkt. No. 105.)

On April 4, 2019, Defendants filed a second renewed ex parte application to notice the examination for May 16, 2019. (Def.'s Mot., Dkt. No. 106 & 107.) On April 15, 2019, Plaintiff filed a response that is virtually identical to the March 15 opposition. (Dkt. No. 108.) Defendant did not file a reply.

II. DISCUSSION

In its opposition, Cellspin again raises the arguments that the request is unduly burdensome, duplicative, harassing, and premature because the case is on appeal. (Pl.'s Opp'n at 10-14.) The Court disagrees for the reasons set forth in the November 21, 2018 order, and incorporates that order herein. Order, *Cellspin Soft, Inc. v. Fossil Group, Inc. and Misfit Inc.*, Case No. 17-cv-05933-YGR (N.D. Cal., Nov. 21, 2018), ECF No. 119 at 2-3.

Additionally, Plaintiff argues that it already appeared at the February 21, 2019 examination, so it should not have to appear again. (Pl.'s Opp'n at 16.) Plaintiff argues that its designee took an entire day off from work to be examined, but Defendants' failure to procure a court reporter prevented the examination from going forward. *Id.* Plaintiff argues that the examination could have been recorded using a smartphone, which would have been less burdensome than rescheduling the examination and requiring its corporate designee to appear again at a later date. *Id.* at 17. This argument is unavailing. While Defendants should have arranged for a court reporter to memorialize the original examination, Plaintiff brought a number of unmeritorious lawsuits against multiple defendants, who have since obtained judgments against it. Now, four defendant corporations in three related cases are coordinating to hold a single judgment-debtor examination instead of having Plaintiff undergo examination four times. Thus, while Defendants should have been prepared to go forward on February 21, Plaintiff's designee will only have to appear twice rather than four times, which is to his benefit.

That the parties could have used a smartphone to record the proceedings, while perhaps novel, is not persuasive, because a court reporter can certify that the transcript is true and correct.

Moreover, since the judgment-debtor examination was not held, California Code of Civil Procedure § 708.110(c) is inapplicable, and the Court may re-order the examination to occur at any time. *See* Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 708.110(b).

Accordingly, Defendant's renewed ex parte application is GRANTED.

III. CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Defendant's renewed ex parte application for an order requiring Cellspin Soft Inc. to appear for a judgment-debtor examination is GRANTED, and the

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examination is set for May 16, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. Th	ne parties are advised that they are responsible
for hiring a court reporter for the proceeding, and the	nat the district court will not assist them in
procuring same.	
IT IS SO ORDERED.	
Dated: April 25, 2019	KANDIS A. WESTMORE United States Magistrate Judge